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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Eugenio A. Cefali et al.  
Serial No.: 08/960,557  
Filing Date: October 31, 1997  
Group Art Unit: 1615  
Confirmation No.:  
Examiner: James M. Spear  
Title: **METHODS OF TREATING HYPERLIPIDEMIA  
WITH INTERMEDIATE RELEASE NICOTINIC  
ACID COMPOSITIONS HAVING UNIQUE  
BIOPHARMACEUTICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

December 22, 2003

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2003 in connection with the  
above identified application for U.S. patent, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments To The Claims** are reflected in the Listings of Claims, which begin on page  
2 of this paper;

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.